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MUSTANG DAILY

CALIFORNIA POLYTECHNIC STATE UNIVERSITY



A Cal Poly staff members quilt will be featured the inauguration.

IN ARTS, 8



President George W. Bush may be remembered for AIDS legacy in Africa.

IN NEWS, 3

Cal Poly introduces Tim Walsh as new football head coach.



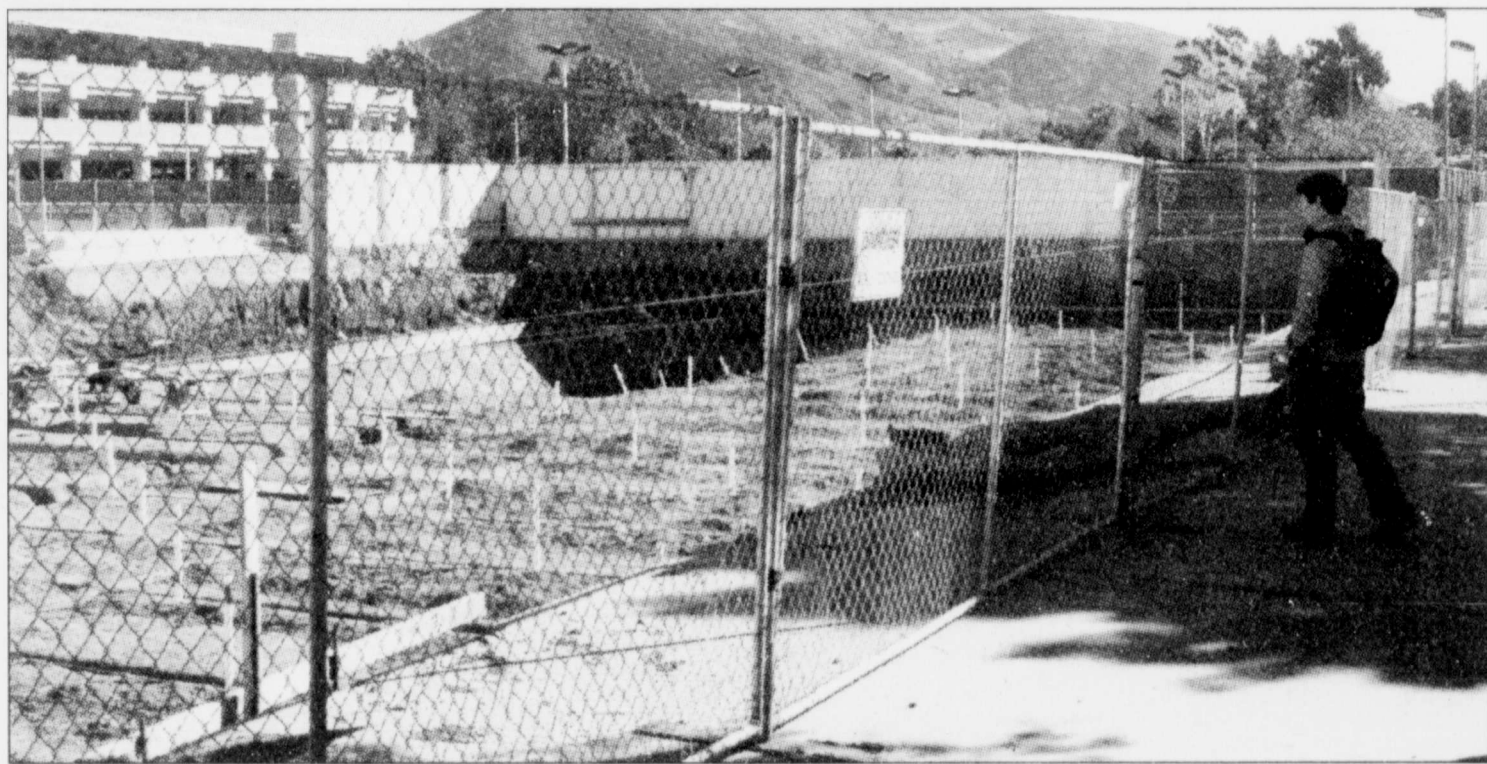
IN SPORTS, 12

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Budget crisis halts Poly construction



PATRICK FINA MUSTANG DAILY

A student looks over the Anderson Pool renovation outside Mott Gym.

Josh Ayers
MUSTANG DAILY

Recent developments in the current state budget crisis in Sacramento have rippled through the California State System and will immediately impact scheduled Cal Poly construction projects.

Some of the projects affected at Cal Poly are the Anderson Pool renovation and upgrades to the switchgear substation, the center for science and the science building.

"We've been told by the chancellor's office to plan for a three month suspension of all these projects," said Mark Hunter, executive director of facility services at Cal Poly.

CSU Chancellor Charles Reed announced on Dec. 22 in an e-mail addressed to all CSU employees that the nation's largest public university system was reviewing certain bond-funded construction projects system-wide with the anticipation of suspending some of them.

The move came following the request in executive order S-16-08 from Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger on Dec. 19 that asked University of California, CSU and California Community Colleges to restore to "other mitigation measures to achieve budget and cash savings for the current and next fiscal year."

Reed said via an all-staff email that the system would heed the governor's request.

For Cal Poly, this meant the

suspension of projects funded by bond monies, primarily from funding allocated by Proposition 1D, for projects such as the Anderson Pool and switchgear substation upgrades.

Proposition 1D was passed by California voters in 2006 and aimed to provide \$10.4 billion to K-12 schools as well as other higher education institutions.

Despite orders to halt construction on projects on campus, Hunter said that work will not completely stop for another three weeks.

"We've also received instructions in suspending projects at a point that makes fiscal and safety sense," he said.

The Anderson Pool project will continue for three weeks, long enough to pour a concrete slab and slope back the excavation sides to make the project shelf-safe until construction resumes.

Although completion of projects will be affected by the suspension, contractors will also be affected. DWR Construction out of Los Alamitos had the contract for the Anderson pool and, according to Hunter, has been cooperative with the situation.

"They've been disappointed but understanding and they've been working with us well," Hunter said.

Because the projects are not entirely funded by Proposition 1D, but rather from multiple sources, it was hard to say how much exactly is being used from

the Proposition 1D fund, according to Teresa Ruiz, a public affairs communications specialist for the CSU.

"Many of these projects are diverse and have many different sources of funding," she said.

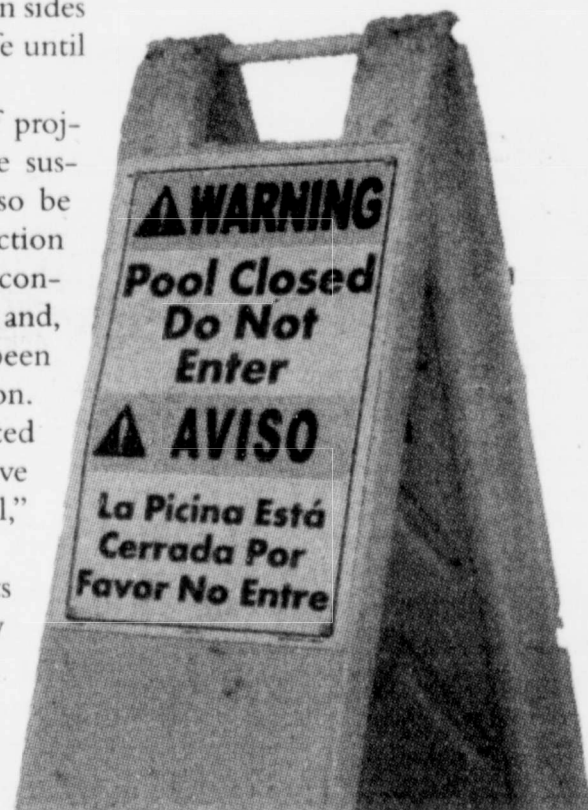
Ruiz also said that as of right now, the anticipated suspension of construction is slated for 90 days.

The switchgear substation, located in Poly Canyon, is an electrical grid that handles the input of electricity to the campus.

Hunter said that the current grid is antiquated and that upgrades are still needed.

"A lot of the breakers are 1960s vintage and we're replacing them with modern breakers," Hunter

see Construction, page 2



Greek life discusses future at summit

Samantha MacConnell
MUSTANG DAILY

With the recent death of Cal Poly student and Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity pledge Carson Starkey hanging over them, leaders of the Cal Poly greek community met in Cambria for this past weekend's annual Greek Summit to discuss the realities of greek life. Normal greek activities, which had been suspended since mid-December, were reinstated; however, formal winter rush has been suspended for the time being.

Cal Poly's Pan-Hellenic Association, Interfraternity Council (IFC), United Sorority and Fraternity Council (USFC), along with each campus fraternity and sorority president were present at Saturday's meeting.

Greek Summit is a retreat for the three organizations — Pan-Hellenic, IFC and USFC — and the fra-

ternity and sorority presidents that take office every January.

"The purpose of this weekend was to come together as a greek community and address the negative areas that sometimes overshadow all the good we do," said Anton de Leon, Interfraternity Council President and business senior.

The organizations aimed to have open conversations about sensitive topics, including hazing.

One goal the organizations had for the summit was to re-evaluate what Cal Poly greek life stands for. This includes changing the way fraternities and sororities inaugurate new members.

"It's definitely going to be a very long process, but I feel like this weekend was the first step in achieving what we need to get done," de Leon said.

"Something we did accomplish is we came together and after iden-

see Greek, page 2

Gaza protests target US consulate in Pakistan

Ashraf Khan
ASSOCIATED PRESS

KARACHI, Pakistan (AP) — Security forces used tear gas and batons to repel anti-Israel protesters who tried to attack a U.S. consulate in Pakistan Sunday, as tens of thousands in Europe, the Middle East and Asia demonstrated against Israel's offensive in Gaza.

A protest in the Belgian capital that drew 30,000 turned violent as well, with demonstrators overturning cars and smashing shop windows. And in Manila, Philippines, policemen used shields to disperse students protesting outside the U.S. Embassy.

Israel launched its campaign in Gaza on Dec. 27 to stop rocket fire from the militant Palestinian group Hamas. Gaza health officials say nearly 870 Palestinians have been killed, roughly half of them civilians. Thirteen Israelis have also died.

Some 2,000 protesters in the Pakistani port city of Karachi burned U.S. flags and chanted anti-Israel slogans, and several hundred of them marched on the U.S. Consulate, senior police official Ameer Sheikh said.

"They were in a mood to attack," Sheikh said. "They were carrying bricks, stones and clubs."

A U.S. Embassy spokesman in Islamabad, Lou Finton, said the protesters did not get close to the consulate, which was closed Sunday.

Washington provides a large amount of foreign aid to Israel as well as military and weapons assistance. Israeli military action is often perceived in the Muslim world as being financed and supported by the U.S. While Pakistan's government is a U.S. ally, anti-American sentiment is pervasive in the Muslim majority country.

In Spain, as many as 100,000 attended rallies in Madrid and the southwestern city of Seville, urging Israel to "stop the massacre in Gaza" and calling for peace initiatives. Spain's Foreign Minister Miguel Angel Moratinos will tour the Middle East starting Monday to promote solutions to the conflict.

In downtown Beirut, an estimated 2,500 Lebanese and Palestinians protested peacefully, waving Palestinian flags and calling on the international community to intervene in the Israeli attack.

A convoy of some 15 ambulances from an Islamic medical society sounded their sirens for 20 sec-

see Protest, page 2

Construction

continued from page 1

said.

The project is only 40 percent complete at this point.

"The intent is to restart these but for the moment they've been stopped," Hunter said. "We're just on a three-

month formal suspension."

Hunter did note that plans for the new recreation center, the Tech Park project, the completion of Poly Canyon Village, the addition of artificial turf for the sports fields and renovations to the University Union will not be affected by the current suspension.

Greek

continued from page 1

tifying the issues, those underlying, sensitive issues that are really tough to talk about, we came together and quantified some goals," said Kristen Bowman, city and regional planning junior and Pan-Hellenic Association President.

The Greek Summit produced an emotional response from Bowman, who felt this

particular meeting was a landmark for the greek community.

"People were opening up. They were willing to change," she said. "It was moving. It was one of the most moving experiences I have ever had."

"Honestly, being in this room with all these strong leaders from the Cal Poly campus and in the greek community, I had chills running up and down my body," she added.

Protest

continued from page 1

onds in solidarity with Gaza medics. Some protesters set fire to a large Israeli flag, while children held bloody dolls representing Palestinian children killed in Gaza.

The death of children in the Gaza assault has become an enduring theme at protests.

Children carrying effigies of bloody babies headed the march attended by thousands in Brussels, which later turned violent before police intervened with water cannons and arrested 10 protesters. Belgian lawmaker Richard Miller told Le Soir newspaper that he was hit in the face by a stone thrown by a demonstrator.

In New York, thousands of supporters of Israel rallied near the United Nations, declaring the offensive an act of self-defense.

"For the last three and a half years, Israel's been bombarded daily by a

number of rockets coming from Gaza," said Gov. David Paterson, one of a dozen elected officials who addressed the crowd that filled a block of 42nd Street. "The founding charter of Hamas calls for the obliteration of the state of Israel."

Across town at Times Square, about 150 pro-Palestinian demonstrators waved signs with pictures of dead and wounded children and chanted, "No justice, no peace! Israel out of the Middle East."

Jewish communities appeared divided on the Israeli operations. In London, thousands of people gathered at Trafalgar Square to support the action in Gaza, while anti-Israeli protesters held a counter-demonstration nearby. In Antwerp, Belgium, home to a large Hassidic Jewish community, some 800 people took part in a peaceful pro-Israel demonstration.

In a letter published in Britain's Observer newspaper Sunday, 11 leading British Jews urged Israel to end its Gaza campaign and negotiate a settlement for security reasons.

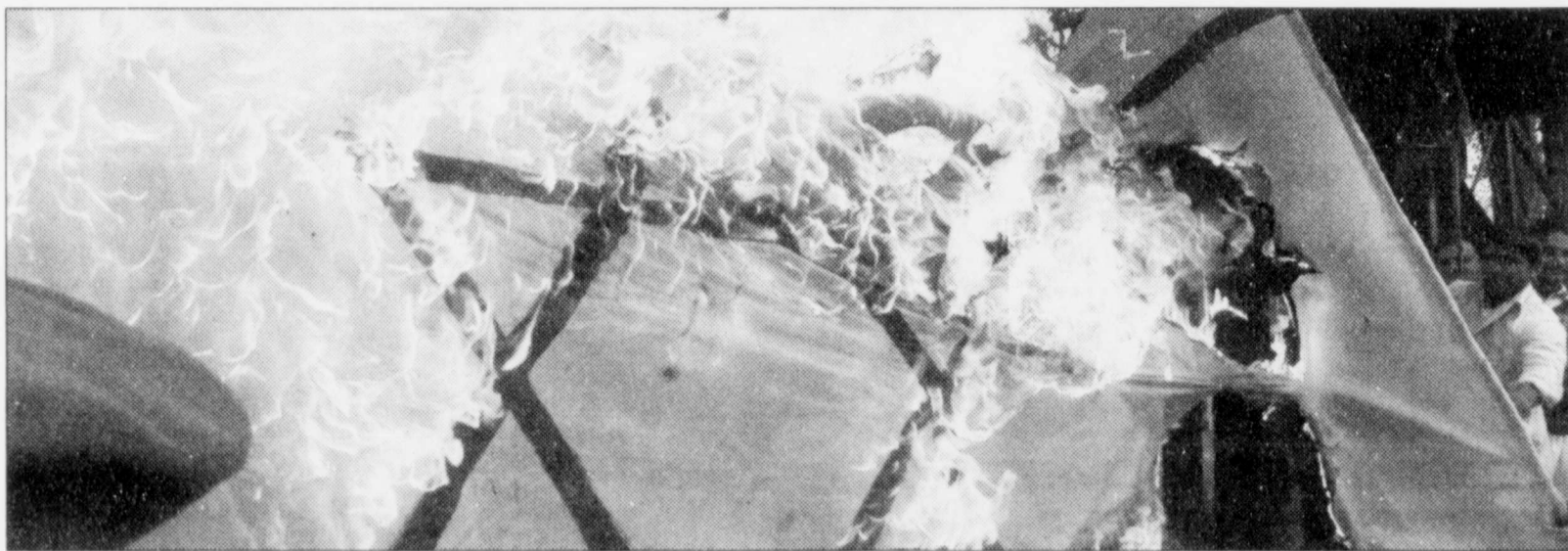
"We are concerned that rather than bringing security to Israel, a continued military offensive could strengthen extremists, destabilize the region and exacerbate tensions inside Israel with its one million Arab citizens," the letter said.

In Syria, as revolutionary songs blared from loudspeakers, demonstrators accused Arab leaders of being complicit in the Gaza assault. "Down, down with the Arab rulers, the collaborators," the crowd in Damascus shouted.

Separately, activists protesting the Israeli campaign were driving from Turkey to Syria in a convoy of 200 cars, and participants hoped Syrian protesters would join them at the border Monday, according to Nezir Dinler, an activist with the Istanbul-based Solidarity Foundation.

A few thousand people marched in largely peaceful pro-Palestinian rallies in the Italian cities of Rome, Naples and Verona. In Rome, municipal authorities were dispatched to erase graffiti — including Stars of David and swastikas — that had been scrawled on Jewish-owned stores and restaurants overnight.

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K.M.CHAUDARY ASSOCIATED PRESS

Supporters of a Pakistani Islamic party Jamaat-e-Islami burn an Israeli flag during a rally to condemn Israeli military attacks on Gaza, Sunday, Jan. 11, 2009 in Lahore, Pakistan.

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WORD ON THE STREET

“Did you have any problems enrolling in classes this quarter?”

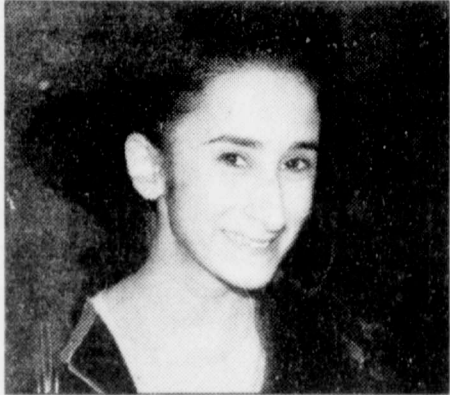


“It was harder than first quarter. I got everything but not the best times.”

-Rachel Selincourt,
child development freshman

“Not really but there were a lot of people crashing.”

-Mollie Shimer,
nutrition freshman



“No, fortunately I’ve moved through most of the (GE’s) and now I’m just doing major classes.”

-Michael Holmes,
aerospace engineering senior



“I’ve had no problems. I would have had a problem but since I’m a honor student the classes I needed had some spots set aside.”

-Tasha Roehick,
social sciences junior



COMPILED AND PHOTOGRAPHED BY RACHEL GLAS

Salmonella prompts peanut butter recall

Kantele Franko
ASSOCIATED PRESS

An Ohio distributor says it has recalled two brands of its peanut butter after an open container tested positive for salmonella bacteria.

Federal health officials said the company’s peanut butter had not been conclusively linked to a national salmonella outbreak.

King Nut Companies said in a statement that it asked customers to stop distributing all peanut butter under its King Nut and Parnell’s Pride brands with a lot code that begins with the numeral “8.”

The peanut butter was distributed only through food service providers in Ohio, Michigan, North Dakota, Minnesota, Arizona, Idaho, New Hampshire, Massachusetts and Florida. It was not sold directly to consumers.

Preliminary laboratory testing found salmonella bacteria in a 5-pound container of King Nut brand creamy peanut butter, the Minnesota Department of Health said Friday.

The Minnesota tests had not linked it to the type of salmonella in the outbreak that has sickened almost 400 people in 42 states, but the department said additional results are expected early next week.

The federal Food and Drug Administration also is analyzing samples of peanut butter from King Nut and Peanut Corporation, spokeswoman Stephanie Kwisnek said Sunday. The agency has not conclusively linked the peanut butter to the strain of salmonella that has sickened people in the outbreak, she said.

King Nut’s president, Martin Kanan, said Sunday that the recall involved approximately 1,000 cases of peanut butter. He said he did not know the names of the company’s customers, but he planned to release more details Monday.

“We don’t know exactly where they sell to,” Kanan said. “They could sell cross-state, too.”

“We just want everybody to know that safety is our highest priority,” Kanan said. “We just wanted to recall it right away.”

King Nut, based in Solon, Ohio, said it canceled all orders with the manufacturer of its two peanut butter brands, Peanut Corporation of America, based in Lynchburg, Va.

Peanut Corporation said in a statement posted on its Web site that it is working with federal food and health officials to determine whether its products are connected to the national outbreak. PCA does not sell its products at grocery stores or directly to the public.

State

CHATSWORTH, Calif. (AP) — An Amtrak passenger train struck and killed a 25-year-old woman Sunday as she was walking alongside the tracks in a railroad tunnel, police said.

The woman was killed at 3:54 p.m. when her head hit a grab bar on the side of the train, said Los Angeles police spokeswoman Officer Karen Smith. The victim was pronounced dead on the scene.

The woman was walking with four other people inside the tunnel in Chatsworth, located in the San Fernando Valley north of Los Angeles. Smith said the pedestrians were off-limits.

The train was carrying 400 passengers en route to Simi Valley. No injuries were reported.

MODESTO, Calif. (AP) — A man wielding a samurai sword was shot and killed by a police officer in downtown Modesto early Sunday.

Modesto police spokesman Sgt. Brian Findlen said the 44-year old man was seen acting strangely and brandishing the two- to three-foot long sword outside a Doubletree Hotel shortly after 5 a.m. A police officer was sent to the scene but it was not immediately clear whether the man charged the officer or what led her to shoot him, Findlen said.

Briefs

National

HELENA, Mont. (AP) — The Montana Legislature is offering its constituents food for thought by posting its 2009 calendar of special interest group-sponsored brunches and mixers online for the first time.

The electronic posting of the Legislature’s social calendar strengthens openness in government, said House Speaker Bob Bergren.

“We want to make sure this (legislative session) is a transparent process,” Bergren said.

He said it’s also better than a paper calendar for keeping the state’s 150 legislators informed.

BENNINGTON, Vt. (AP) — After he was charged with hitting his girlfriend in the face, career criminal Michael Brillon sat in jail without bail for nearly three years, going through six public defenders before being tried for assault.

The delays paid off — for Brillon: A Vermont court threw out his conviction and freed him from prison last spring, saying his Sixth Amendment right to a speedy trial had been violated.

Now the U.S. Supreme Court is taking up the case this week, trying to decide if delays caused by public defenders can deprive a criminal defendant of that right. In particular: Whether governments can be blamed for such delays since they’re the ones who assign and pay the lawyers for indigent defendants.

International

VATICAN CITY (AP) — Cardinal Pio Laghi, a longtime Vatican diplomat who went to Washington to try to dissuade U.S. President George W. Bush from launching the 2003 invasion of Iraq, has died. He was 86.

Laghi died Saturday evening at a Rome hospital where he had been treated for some time, Vatican Radio said.

Pope John Paul II tapped Laghi, a former envoy to Washington, in 2003 to meet with President George W. Bush on the eve of the war. Laghi was trying to prevent what he said was a morally and legally unjustified invasion.

MOGADISHU, Somalia (AP) — The body of a Somali pirate who drowned just after receiving a huge ransom washed onshore with \$153,000 in cash, a resident said Sunday, as the spokesman for another group of pirates promised to soon free a Ukrainian arms ship.

Five pirates drowned Friday when their small boat capsized after they received a reported \$3 million ransom for releasing a Saudi oil tanker. Local resident Omar Abdi Hassan said one of the bodies had been found on a beach near the coastal town of Haradhere and relatives were searching for the other four.

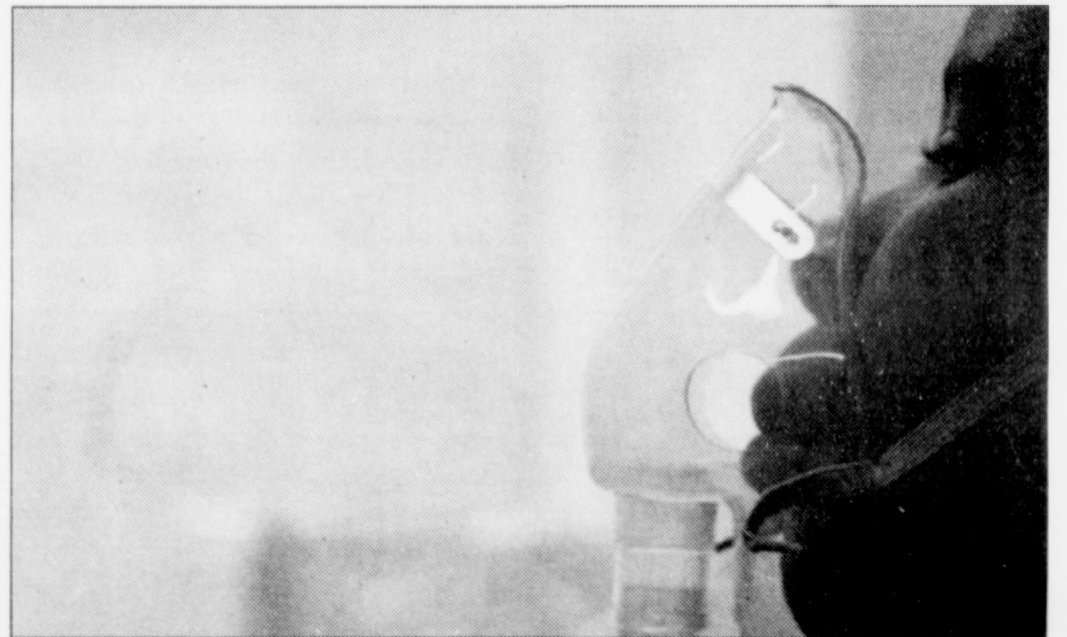
AIDS battle burnishes Bush’s legacy in Africa

Claire Nullis
ASSOCIATED PRESS

In her AIDS-scarred South African township, Sweetness Mzolisa leads a chorus of praise for George W. Bush that echoes to the deserts of Namibia, the hills of Rwanda and the villages of Ethiopia.

Like countless Africans, Mzolisa looks forward to Barack Obama becoming America’s first black president Jan. 20. But — like countless Africans — Mzolisa says she will always be grateful to Bush for his war on AIDS, which has helped to treat more than 2 million Africans, support 10 million more, and revitalize the global fight against the disease.

“It has done a lot for the people of South Africa, for the whole of the African continent,” says Mzolisa, a feist mother of seven. “It



DENIS FARRELL ASSOCIATED PRESS

A patient is shown using a nebulizer during a test for the presence of TB at the Tembaletle, a U.S. funded Right to Care Clinic at the Helen Joseph Hospital in Johannesburg Wednesday.

has changed so many people’s lives, saved so many people’s lives.”

Mzolisa, 44, was diagnosed with

the AIDS virus in 1999 and formed a women’s support group to “share see AIDS, page 5

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Obama

continued from page 4

presidents from John F. Kennedy to George H.W. Bush — seven straight — were part of the World War II generation, or what Tom Brokaw has termed the “Greatest Generation.”

If Obama isn't a boomer in spirit, then what is he? Not exactly a member of Generation X, though obviously that generation and the next, Generation Y (also known as Millennials) embraced him fully and fueled his historic rise to the presidency.

“Gen Xers are known to be more cynical, less optimistic,” says social commentator Jonathan Pontell. “Xers don't write books with the word ‘hope’ in the title.”

Some call late boomers like Obama Cuspers — as in, the cusp of a new generation. One book has called it the 13th generation, as in the 13th generation since colonial times. And Pontell, also a political consultant in Los Angeles, has gained some fame coining a new category: Generation Jones, as in the slang word ‘jonesing,’ or craving, and as in a generation that's lost in the shuffle.

Jonesers are idealistic, Pontell says, but not ideological like boomers. “Boomers were flower children out changing the world. We Jonesers were wide-eyed, not tie-dyed.”

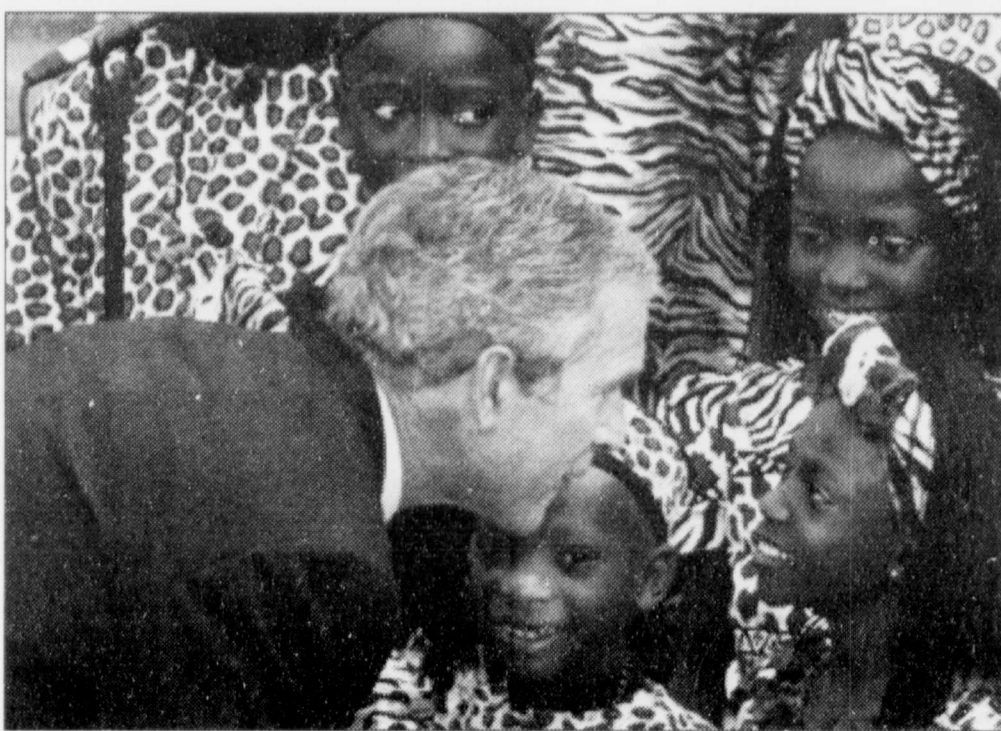
And Obama, he says, is “a walking, living prime example of Generation Jones. He's a classic practical idealist. It's not the naive idealism of the '60s.”

Wide-eyed or tie-dyed, Obama will be sworn in by an early “Joneser” himself — Chief Justice John Roberts, who turns 54 at the end of January. And while the average age of the new Congress is 58.2 — an early boomer group — the new president is bringing some “Jonesers” with him.

Obama's chosen treasury secretary, Timothy Geithner, is 47. His pick for education secretary, Arne Duncan, is 44, as is Susan Rice, his U.N. ambassador. (His apparent pick for surgeon general, 39-year-old neurosurgeon and TV correspondent Sanjay Gupta, is a true Gen Xer.)

Of course, Obama's also bringing in veteran Clintonites — most notably Hillary Rodham Clinton, 61, his former campaign rival, as secretary of state. And his vice president, Joe Biden, 66, and defense secretary, Bush holdover Robert Gates, 65, are pre-boomers. But those are the kind of choices — inclusive of other perspectives, embracing rivals — that lead many to call Obama the first post-boomer president.

“It may be technically correct to call him a boomer,” says Douglas Warsaw, a New York media executive who, at age 49, is part of whatever cohort Obama is in. “And it's in the Zeitgeist to call him a Gen Xer. But I think he's more like a generational bridge.” He adds that Obama got where he was by “brilliantly leveraging the communication behaviors of post-boomers,” with a campaign waged across the Web, on cell phones and on social networking sites.



CHARLES DHARAPAK ASSOCIATED PRESS

In this July 11, 2003 file photo, President Bush greets a member of the Ugandan Watoto Children's Choir after they performed for him at the AIDS Support Organization Center (TASO) in Entebbe, Uganda.

AIDS

continued from page 3

the pain.” In 2004 she received a U.S. grant to set up office in a shipping container and start a soup kitchen from the group's vegetable garden. She stretches her \$10,000 in annual funding to train staff to look after bed-ridden AIDS victims, feed and clothe orphans, and do stigma-busting work at schools and taxi ranks.

Hundreds of similar small grassroots projects are being funded by the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief, or PEPFAR, alongside higher-

profile charities and big state clinics.

Bush launched the \$15 billion plan in 2003 to expand prevention, treatment and support programs in 15 hard-hit countries, 12 of them African, which account for more than half the world's estimated 33 million AIDS infections. The initiative tied in with a World Health Organization campaign to put three million people on AIDS drugs by 2005 — a goal it says was reached in 2007.

Congress last year passed legislation more than tripling the budget to \$48 billion over the next five years, with Republicans and Democrats alike hailing the program as a remark-

able success.

But the task remains enormous. More than 1.5 million Africans died in 2007 (the U.S. death toll is under 15,000), fewer than one-third had access to treatment, and new infections continued to outstrip those receiving life-prolonging drugs.

In most African countries, life expectancy has dropped dramatically, and only a few, like Botswana, have started to turn the corner again.

And with no end in sight to the global financial crisis, there are fears about whether all the funding approved by Congress will be delivered.

There continue to be detractors who say the U.S. administration should have channeled the money through the U.N.; that it has placed too much emphasis on faith-based groups and abstinence; that it has trampled on women's health by shunning anything associated with abortions; that it has concentrated on AIDS treatment at the expense of prevention; and that it has diverted attention away from bigger killers like pneumonia and diarrhea.

Helen Epstein, an AIDS expert who has consulted for the U.N. and the World Bank, says both the U.N. and PEPFAR have failed disastrously on prevention by preaching abstinence until marriage and failing to recognize that in some African cultures it is the norm to have several simultaneous long-term relationships.

She says the money would be better spent on strengthening African health care systems rather than focusing on a single disease.

First U.S. count finds 1 in 200 kids are vegetarian

Mike Stobb
ASSOCIATED PRESS

Sam Silverman is co-captain of his high school football team — a safety accustomed to bruising collisions. But that's nothing compared with the abuse he gets for being a vegetarian.

“I get a lot of flak for it in the locker room,” said the 16-year-old junior at Westborough High School in Massachusetts.

“All the time, my friends try to get me to eat meat and tell me how good it tastes and how much bigger I would be,” said Silverman, who is 5-foot-10 and 170 pounds. “But for me, there's no real temptation.”

Silverman may feel like a vegetable vendor at a butchers' convention, but about 367,000 other kids are in the same boat, according to a recent study that provides the government's first estimate of how many children avoid meat. That's about 1 in 200.

Other surveys suggest the rate could be four to six times that among older teens who have more control over what they eat than young children do.

Vegetarian diets exclude meat, but the name is sometimes loosely worn. Some self-described vegetarians eat fish or poultry on occasion, while others — called vegans — cut out animal products of any kind, including eggs and dairy products.

Anecdotal, adolescent vegetarianism seems to be rising, thanks in part to YouTube animal slaughter videos that shock the developing sensibilities of many U.S. children. But there isn't enough long-term data to prove that, according to government researchers.

The new estimate of young vegetarians comes from a recent federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention study of alternative medicine based on a survey of thousands of Americans in 2007. Information on children's diet habits was gleaned from about 9,000 parents and other adults speaking on the behalf of those under 18.

“I don't think we've done a good job of counting the number of vegetarian youth, but I think this is reasonable,” Amy Lanou, a nutrition scientist at the University of North Carolina,

Asheville, said of the government estimate. She works with the Physicians Committee for Responsible Medicine, a vegan advocacy group.

Vegetarians say it's animal welfare, not health, that most often causes kids to stop eating meat.

“Compassion for animals is the major, major reason,” said Richard Schwartz, president of Jewish Vegetarians of North America, an organization with a newsletter mailing list of about 800. “When kids find out the things they are eating are living animals — and if they have a pet...”

Case in point is Nicole Nightingale, 14, of Safety Harbor, Fla. In 2007, Nightingale was on the Internet to read about chicken when she came across a video on YouTube that showed the birds being slaughtered. At the end, viewers were invited to go to the Web site peta.org — People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals.

Nicole told her parents she was going vegan, prompting her mother to send an angry letter to PETA. But the vegan diet is working out, and now her mother is taking steps to become a vegetarian, too, said Nightingale, an eighth-grader.

She believes her experience was typical for a pre-adolescent vegetarian. “A lot more kids are using the Internet. They're curious about stuff and trying to become independent and they're trying to find out who they are,” she said.

Vegetarians are most often female, from higher-income families and living on the East or West coasts, according to previous studies. One good place to find teen vegetarians is Agnes Scott College, a mostly white, all-women's private school in suburban Atlanta with about 850 students. Roughly 5 to 10 percent of Agnes Scott students eat vegetarian, said Pete Miller, the college's director of food service.

Frequently, the most popular entree at the college dining hall is a fresh mozzarella sandwich with organic greens. And the comment board (called “the Beef Board,” as in “what's your beef?”) often contains plaudits for vegetarian dishes or requests for more. “They're very vocal,” Miller said of his vegetarian diners.

Eating vegetarian can be very healthy — nutritionists often push kids to eat more fruits and vegetables, of course. For growing children, however, it's important to get sufficient amounts of protein, vitamins B12 and D, iron, calcium

and other important nutrients that most people get from meat, eggs and dairy.

Also, vegetarian diets are not necessarily slimming. Some vegetarian kids cut out meat but fill up on doughnuts, french fries, soda or potato chips, experts said.

“Vegetarian doesn't mean low-calorie,” said Dr. Christopher Bolling, who directs weight management research at Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center. He said roughly 10 to 15 percent of the overweight kids who come to his medical center's weight loss program have tried a vegetarian diet at some point before starting the program.

Rayna Middlebrooks, 15, last year started a weight-loss program offered by Children's Healthcare of Atlanta, a nonprofit hospital organization. She said she's been on a vegetarian diet for four years and now carries about 250 pounds on her 5-foot-3 inch frame.

Her mother confirmed that, and said that although Rayna does a great job of cooking vegetable-rich stir-fried meals for herself, the girl also loves pasta, soda and sweets. “I have to watch her with the candy,” said Barbara Middlebrooks, of Decatur.

On the flip



SAM SILVERMAN ASSOCIATED PRESS

Sam Silverman, co-captain of his high school football team, and a vegetarian, said he's pleased with his health and has no problems sticking to his diet.

side is Silverman, the Boston-area football player. He's pleased with his health and has no problem sticking to his diet. Rather than try to negotiate the school cafeteria line, he brings his lunch to school. It's the same lunch every day — rye bread, some chicken-like tofu, cheese, a clementine and an assortment of NutriGrain, Cliff, granola and Power Bars.

He was raised vegetarian and said it's now so deeply ingrained that the idea of eating meat is nauseating. Recently, he ate something he belatedly realized might contain chicken. “I felt sick the rest of the day, until I threw up,” he said.

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Merle Haggard sues environmental group

John Gerome
ASSOCIATED PRESS

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — Country star Merle Haggard has sued an environmental awareness group, claiming it illegally used his name and likeness to raise money.

The lawsuit was filed Thursday in Chancery Court against the Green Train, a Nashville-based organization, and its founder, Robert K. Wolf. It seeks unspecified compensatory damages.

Haggard claims in the lawsuit that the group forged his signature and exaggerated his involvement with the organization to solicit money. The Bakersfield, Calif. native says his reputation could be irreparably harmed by continued association with the group.

The Green Train bills itself as a nonprofit that educates the public about environmental issues. Its concert-and-train tour scheduled to depart Portland, Ore., in April and travel through 28 states on a six-week whistle-stop tour with several con-

certs along the way before ending in Washington D.C.

A phone message left with the organization was not immediately returned.

According to the lawsuit, Haggard donated \$20,000 to the Green Train and agreed to ride the train as support and entertainment. He also attended a fundraising lunch and said he would ask a few of his fellow artists if they would agree to ride the train.

see Haggard, page 8



RICH PEDRONCELLI
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In this Oct. 2, 2007 file photo, singer Merle Haggard poses at his ranch at Palo Cedro, Calif. Haggard has sued an environmental awareness group, claiming it illegally used his name and likeness to raise money.

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Poly's own represented in inaugural quilt celebration

Clinton McGue

MUSTANG DAILY

Just a short week after President-elect Barack Obama was voted into office, Denise Campbell received a phone call that presented her with the opportunity of a lifetime — an invitation to take part in celebrations leading up to the president's inauguration.

Cal Poly's associate vice president of Student Affairs was asked to make a quilt to be featured in the "Quilts for Obama: Celebrating the Inauguration of Our 44th President" display at the Historical Society of Washington, D.C. Sunday.

When she first received the call, Campbell was in shock and didn't believe that the request was real. She held back her desire to tell others because she half expected a phone call back apologizing for the misunderstanding.

"I thought to myself, 'there are so many other more qualified quilters,'" she said. "It was so surreal.

I wasn't sure I could do something worthy of the occasion."

With only weeks to work, Campbell responded to the pressure with her thought-provoking quilt "From Kenya to Kansas the World Rejoices" which will be represented along with 43 other quilts to commemorate the inauguration.

The theme of Campbell's quilt is diversity. The title of the quilt lends itself to be interpreted as such.

"I wanted to show diversity of not only how different people are experiencing this moment, but how different cultures are experiencing it too," she said.

Nothing about this quilt is simple. From the general shape of it to the detailed people included in it, intense thought went into every aspect of the piece.

The circular shape of the quilt was made to represent 'O' for Obama.

The green cloth that provides a background to the different characters and settings of the quilt represents, as Campbell put it, "(Obama's) sensitivity for sustainability and the economy."

The lawn of the White House was quilted in an oak leaf pattern, which was a way of threading commonly used by enslaved quilters.

"We were asked not to focus on the past, but on the journey," she explained the reason for using the pattern. "This was just a subtle indicator that enslaved African Americans built

the White House."

Campbell has been quilting since 1979 and some of her works can be seen in such books as, "Textural Rhythms: Quilting the Jazz Tradition" and "Threads of Faith."

Cal Poly will also be involved in the celebration. Included in one of the scenes portrayed on the quilt is a veteran standing by a wall that has congratulatory messages written on it. Cal Poly students and faculty, as well as members of Campbell's husband's oncology staff, wrote those messages.

Chris Campbell is feeling the effects of a form of pneumonia that hasn't received a definitive diagnosis. He first became sick in 2008 and continues to receive chemotherapy today in hopes of eliminating the hemorrhaging blood vessels causing the problem.

Needless to say, this year has been a difficult one for the Campbell family, but they've found a bright note with this celebration.

"This is the biggest moment I'll have in my life, as an artist anyway, to be asked to celebrate this moment in such a tangible way," she said.

COURTESY PHOTOS

Assistant vice president of Student Affairs Denise Campbell (below) created a quilt (left) to be displayed as a part of Barack Obama's inaugural celebration. Campbell's quilt is called "From Kenya to Kansas the World Rejoices" and is meant to highlight diversity in the world.



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Haggard

continued from page 7

But the lawsuit said the group "greatly exaggerated" Haggard's support and misstated that he has personal involvement in the project's operations.

Haggard, who has had 38 No. 1 hits stretching back to 1966 including "Okie From Muskogee," said that without his consent, permission or knowledge, the group used his name and image on all materials for the Green Train and forged his signature on "personal letters" and other solicitation materials and on merchandise sold on e-Bay and in nightclubs.

The forged letters went to some of Haggard's friends in the entertainment industry, including Dolly Parton, Jewel, Vince Gill and Amy Grant, the lawsuit states.

Haggard also contends that the group did not have a state permit to raise contributions and did not report the contributions, and that "substantial amounts" of the tens of thousands of dollars it raised went to Wolf's personal use.

"By using Mr. Haggard's name and other aspects of Mr. Haggard's identity to promote the Green Train project under these circumstances, defendants create the false impression that the project has been operated in a credible, ethical and legal fashion, when in fact that is not the case," the lawsuit alleges.

Besides compensatory damages and attorney's fees, he asks that his name be removed from the Green Train. He also asks the court to bar the group from keeping contributions illegally raised in his name without making "full and complete disclosure of all relevant facts to the donors."

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Mustang Daily

"Even I would have slept with him for a million dollars."

MUSTANG DAILY OPINION/EDITORIAL

Monday, January 12, 2009

Editor in chief: Marlize van Romburgh
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Resolutions are so next year

Let's get the obvious ones out of the way first: this year I resolve to graduate in March, drive a Mercedes convertible by June and be more famous than Tom Cruise by October.

That may not be completely attainable. Alright, I resolve to learn to speak Vietnamese, salsa dance and really "go green." Not much more within reach? What if I brushed up on Spanish, accepted that I dance like someone just dropped ice down my shirt, and just "go a nice shade of chartreuse." Now that's more like it.

Resolutions last about as long as a John Stamos sitcom. Every year begs the question, why should I be so resolute in the new year? The new year has always been about repairing what was broken about the previous year, undoing past mistakes. This year, I'm taking it back. I'm not resolving. I'm considering wavering on what may or may not be possible for me to accomplish this year.

This January, instead of swearing off shopping binges I am just going to accept that 2009 may not be the year for me to rise up out of debt. I will dare to ask "Does that come in turquoise?"

In February, instead of forcing yourself to go on a bad Valentine's date or sit at home

with a sad movie and a box of candy, accept that March might be a better time of year for you to meet someone.

This April, when your friend is four months

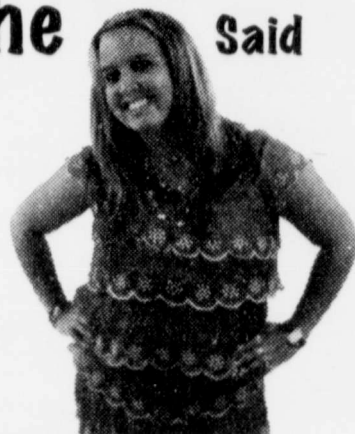
a bad thing.

This year, forget resolving to do anything. Don't say you are going to "go green" unless you are going to build a compost heap in your front yard and use a car that runs on vegetable oil. Instead, say you are going to "go chartreuse." Buy a canteen, recycle this newspaper and buy an energy efficient light bulb.

2009 isn't about resolution, maybe that is what 2010 will be for; 2009 is the year that we should all look back at 2008 and think maybe that wasn't so bad. Maybe the coffee addiction, awkward hookups, failed class and gym membership that has a metaphorical layer of dust on it was all that made last year so great. Resolve to make mistakes, not form a single new habit and screw with anyone who tries to do otherwise, and I absolutely promise your year will be memorable at the very least.

You still want to try? Well, I suggest to all of you so resolute in your new habit for the new year to tread softly and carry a taser gun because the road to a better you is lined with people like me.

**That's What
She
Said**



by Rachel Newman

strong on her pledge to stop swearing, run her foot over with your shopping cart. My point is not to permanently injure anyone, but a soft reminder that no one likes a show-off is never

Rachel Newman is an English junior. "That's What She Said" takes a fresh and lighthearted look at issues at Cal Poly and in San Luis Obispo.

guest commentary

Crashing classes? Bring your rabbit's foot, four-leaf clover and lucky socks

As we emerge from the hectic first week of school, we breathe a collective sigh of relief as the stress of finding classes, buying books and getting acquainted with new schedules is behind us. Or is it? We are all aware of the incredible lack of classes available each quarter and the disappointment of being at the end of a long waitlist. But even more frustrating is the ever-present ritual of crashing classes. And although by the end of the first week, most people have either gotten a yes or no on the classes they have petitioned, some of us still hang in the balance.

This quarter I had a special experience with petitioning a chemistry class. As many students know, the trick is not getting into the lecture, but being able to find a spot in the lab. I had high hopes, as I was able to fit in two of the three sections, thus increasing my chances of adding. Since it has always baffled me that people often show up late and still expect to get a spot, I made a point to arrive 15 minutes early. I was happy to find that I was the first person there so I notified the professor that I was there to petition, took a seat and crossed my fingers. Two others showed up as well and together we waited and watched as the seats began to fill. In the end, it came down to one seat and I lost out on a game of "pick the name out of a hat." A bit disappointed, I had no choice but to leave and return two days later to try again.

Thursday rolled around and once again I showed up early, and two others joined me shortly after.

This time two spots were open and I felt I had a fairly good chance. Boy, was I wrong. One spot was given to a graduating senior and the other was given away to the person who had shown up last. The professor decided he deserved the seat as he "had been petitioning for a lab all week." This time I was more confused when I left since I had just been discounted on the basis of not being available to petition every single section that week.

This brings me to my complaint. I am amazed by the array of methods professors use to add people to their classes. Of course, many will give priority

Many will give priority to seniors, majors or minors ... but then there are the more ridiculous games of chance such as picking numbers or names out of a hat.

to seniors, majors or minors, which is understandable, but then there are the more ridiculous games of chance such as picking numbers or names out of a hat. I can't understand why there isn't a standardized system. It seems that after the seniors and majors are taken care of, the rest of us are at the mercy of the professor. Rather than refer to the waitlist order or take note of the people who managed to show up early or on time, they leave it to

chance for the sake of "being fair." The first week of classes is stressful enough without this guessing game many students have no choice but to play. Maybe the school doesn't have the means to add more classes to remedy the problem, but it would be extremely easy to implement a system that students can reference and figure out for themselves what their chances really are.

Melissa Hulgreen is an animal science junior and a Mustang Daily guest columnist.



Is this supposed to be funny? This isn't very clever, and you should probably consider your audience here. I'm pretty sure you just described about 90 percent of the female population in SLO. You made a simple list... anyone can do that. I mean, what's wrong with makeup and oversized glasses?

— Poly Dolly

Response to "Once upon a time at Cal Poly there was a little princess"

Honestly, I think it's hilarious. Certainly no different than the author's previous article on douches. Perhaps you should get off your sparkly pony, Princess Poly Dolly, and not get so offended as to another's opinion on (silly, in my opinion) clothing trends.

— Katy

Response to "Once upon a time at Cal Poly there was a little princess"

The simple fact is that this conflict far exceeds not only your lifetime, but mine and yours combined! If you want to understand more about the conflict, I suggest opening a history book as many as possible. To believe that this conflict has a "simple" solution is so completely naive that you undermine any real discussion about the problems that exist in the region. Rocket fire has been raining down in southern Israel since at least 2001 — a total of over 11,000 rockets and mortars shot, squarely into Israel with the intent of civilian damage. Where was the protest then?

— Jacob Kory

Response to "Focus on moral intentions on both sides of the conflict"

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Girls & Sports by Justin Borus and Andrew Feinstein

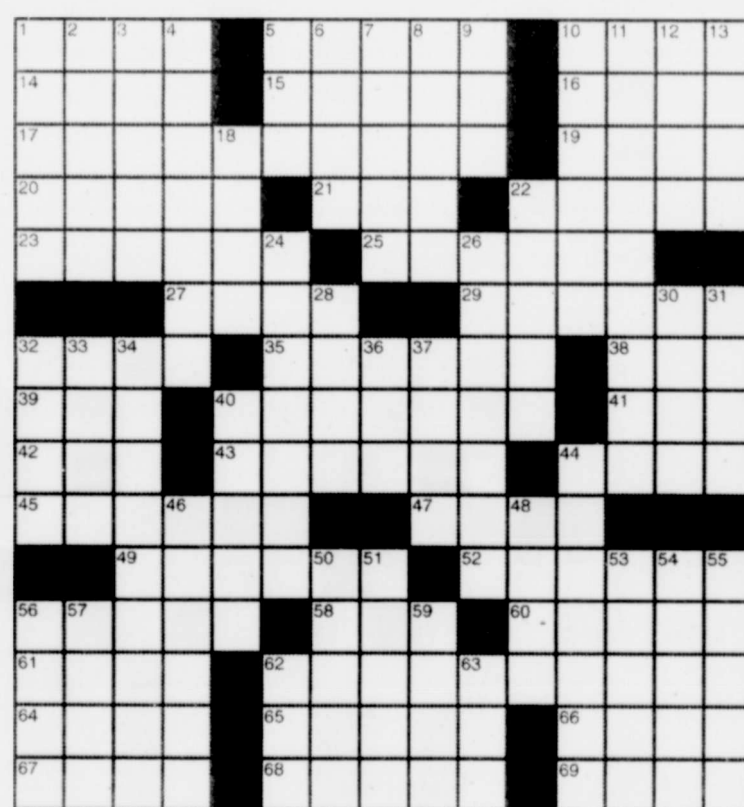


- Across**
- Fill to excess
 - "... la vista, baby"
 - Milky white gem
 - Earth Day subj.
 - Less cordial
 - Hoarfrost
 - Many a mail outlet
 - Slaughter in the Baseball Hall of Fame
 - Scout master?
 - California's Big ...
 - "Just kidding" signals
 - The "Na" in NaCl
 - Citizen Kane's estate
 - Nose-in-the-air type
 - Tooth covering
 - "Hey, over here!"
 - Instruction book
 - Dude
- Down**
- Land to build a house on
 - What the starts of 17- and 62-Across and 11- and 34-Down may each be a piece of
 - A conceited person has a big one
 - ... de Cologne
 - Not yet taken care of
 - Gait faster than a walk
 - Devoted
 - Arthur of tennis
 - Dons
 - Muscle/bone connector
 - Now, in Nogales
 - By way of
 - Polo who visited Cathay
 - Dangerous shark
 - Place to keep a report

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 DONEE TGI NONE
 WINOS REAR TPKE
 EDAM CENSE HELD
 LADA AROSE EDEL
 LSAT TERI RAISE
 EERO CAS TERNS
 STEP DAD AHM
 OWL ELAL TAU
 THREE LITTLEPIGS
 NOOIL SCHEDULEA
 TRIAL MHOS REEF

- Get ready, for short
- ... tube
- Carrier of coal from a mine
- Filly's father
- Swimmer Debbie who won three golds at the 1968 Olympics
- Upper house members: Abbr.
- Religious splinter groups
- Possible reaction from getting a cold shoulder?
- ... fro
- Nose-in-the-air type
- ... and hers
- Isn't idle
- Sitting Bull or Crazy Horse
- ... cotta
- "... we having fun yet?"
- Frozen potato brand
- A.T.M. access code
- Not a good way to run
- Subtracted by
- Verb accompanier
- In a weak manner
- Instant
- Most at hand
- Madam
- Therefore
- Plunder



Puzzle by Sarah Keller

- "Not guilty," e.g.
- Fly high
- Five-card or seven-card game
- Prefix with classical
- Radius neighbor
- Ruling group after a coup
- Renters
- The Continent
- Powerful auto engine
- Sheeplike
- Fool
- Rapper with a professional title
- Neptune's realm
- Standards
- Concert equipment
- Mata ...
- "A Death in the Family" author
- What a "swish" basketball shot doesn't touch
- "It's c-c-cold!"

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Basketball

continued from page 12

fense, but when we got down there on defense, we kind of let up.

"I think we need to relax, rebound the ball and everybody needs to play better defense in order for us to win," Keeler added.

I think we need to relax, rebound the ball and everybody needs to play better defense in order for us to win.

—Lorenzo Keeler
Cal Poly junior guard

UC Irvine dominated the court in the second half shooting 60 percent from the field and a blistering 83.3 percent from beyond the arc.

Cal Poly could not compete with Irvine's shooting, hitting just 35.4 percent of their shots for the game.

UC Irvine junior guard Michael Hunter led the Anteaters with a game-high 20 points and eight assists, helping them to improve to 4-11 overall and 2-1 in the Big West Conference.

Senior center Kevin Bland added 11 points, seven assists, and showed his outside range in hitting the first 3-point shot of the game. Freshman forward Eric Wise contributed 16 points and seven rebounds for the Anteaters.

Mustangs sophomore forward Wes Dipprey had a team-high eight rebounds.

Coming off a near triple-double against Cal State Fullerton on Thursday, senior guard Chaz Thomas added 14 points and three assists for Cal Poly while sophomore guard Shawn Lewis had 10 points.

Cal Poly head coach Kevin Bromley said that his team must work on their defensive effort and rebounding before they take the court next week.

"I thought the biggest problem in the game was when we went into a stretch where we couldn't get them stopped," Bromley said. "We couldn't defend, they had too much momentum and we couldn't get them stopped."

Cal Poly hosts the UC Santa Barbara Gauchos (7-9, 1-3) this Saturday at 7 p.m. at Mott Gym.

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Chargers

continued from page 12

The Chargers had the ball for only 17 seconds of the third quarter to the Steelers' 14:43, thanks to Pittsburgh's nearly eight-minute scoring drive that ended with Roethlisberger's 8-yard TD pass to Heath Miller. Rivers also had an interception on a first down from the Pittsburgh 23 and the Chargers had a punt that bounced off Eric Weddle's helmet and the Steelers recovered.

Keeping Rivers and Sproles off the field so long allowed Pittsburgh to stretch its lead from 14-10 late in the second quarter on Parker's 3-yard run to 28-10 early in the fourth on Gary Russell's 1-yard run. Weddle — him again — was flagged for a 44-yard interference penalty before Russell scored.

Even as Rivers went 21-of-35 for 308 yards and three touchdowns, the Chargers failed to improve on one of the NFL's most curious records. They're 0-13 in Pittsburgh during the regular season, but previously were 2-0 there in the playoffs.

The Steelers weren't as defensively dominant as they were while holding eight teams to 10 or fewer points during the season, but they also weren't rusty or off their game as the other three home teams this weekend and now are 13-4. The

Chargers ended 9-9.

Roethlisberger, again looking like the can't-shake-me quarterback who led three road playoff wins in three weeks as the Steelers won the Super Bowl three years ago, converted three times on third down plays of eight yards to go or longer ahead of his TD pass to Miller.

That scary concussion Roethlisberger sustained against Cleveland and might have sidelined him if Pittsburgh had played a wild-card game? Also not a factor.

For all of Roethlisberger's playmaking — on one play, he even threw a block to help Holmes pick up extra yardage — it was a healthy Parker who made the major difference in a Steelers offense that was the worst statistically of the 12 playoff teams.

Parker, who fought through knee and shoulder injuries during his first sub-1,000-yard season as a starter, had his most productive game since running for 138 yards and three TDs against Houston in the Sept. 7 opener.

San Diego had one excellent chance in the third quarter to make a game of it.

Sproles' kickoff return provided the Chargers' best field position since their opening drive, but Rivers' pass was by tipped by defensive end Brett Keisel at the line of scrimmage and Larry Foote made a diving interception at the Pittsburgh

21 that was upheld on a challenge.

The long Pittsburgh drive and two turnovers meant San Diego didn't run its second play from scrimmage of the second half until 14:56 was left.

Eight weeks after the only 11-10 game in NFL history, the Chargers returned to nearly the same weather as that day: cold, with temperatures in the 20s, and snow flurries that lightly dusted the field.

The sunny-weather Chargers didn't exactly look as if they were out of their element, at least on their opening drive, but they again couldn't make an early 7-0 lead hold up.

The Steelers, one of the NFL's worst return teams, got their first touchdown in an uncanny way. Antonio Holmes fielded Mike Scifres' punt at his own 37, cut toward the middle, then swerved down the San Diego sideline before leaping over Legedu Naanee at the 13 on a 67-yard punt return.

Pittsburgh hadn't scored on a punt return since Holmes' 65-yarder against Carolina on Dec. 17, 2006.

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5	3	4	9	7	1	2	6	8
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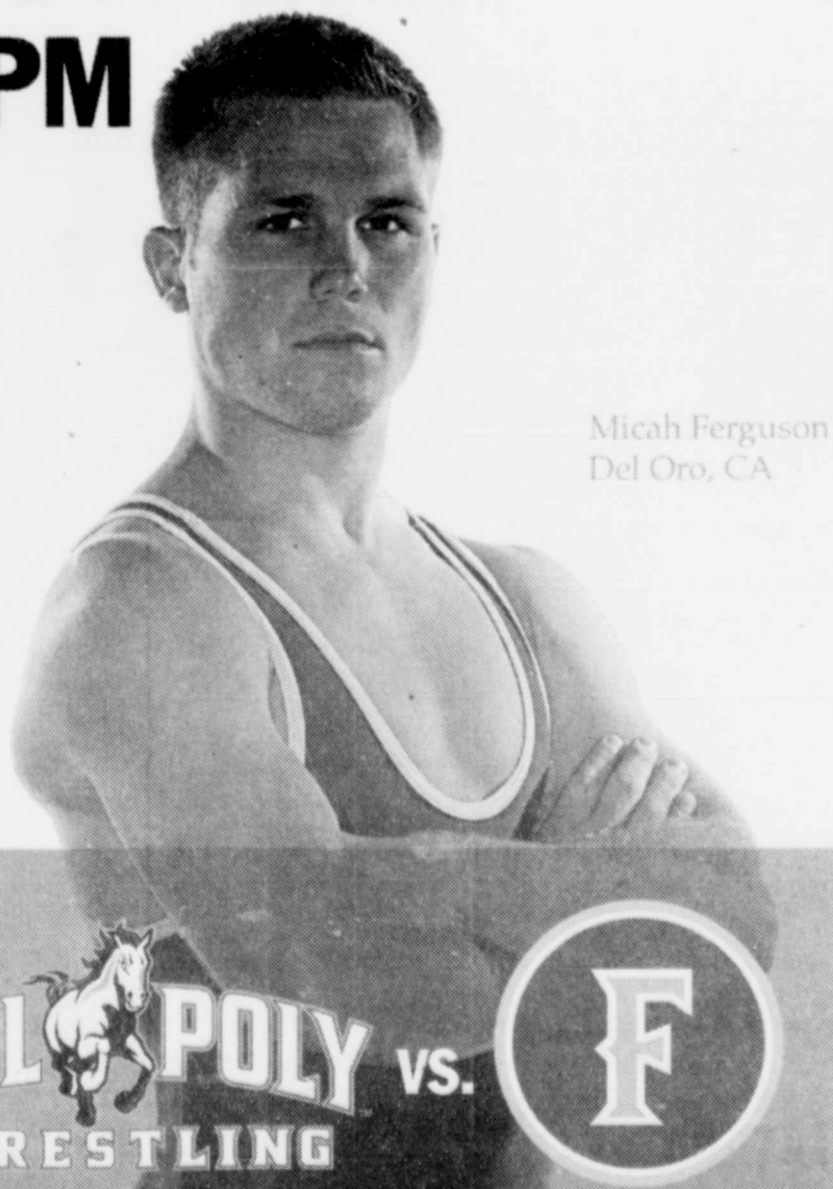
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6PM**



CAL POLY WRESTLING vs. **F**

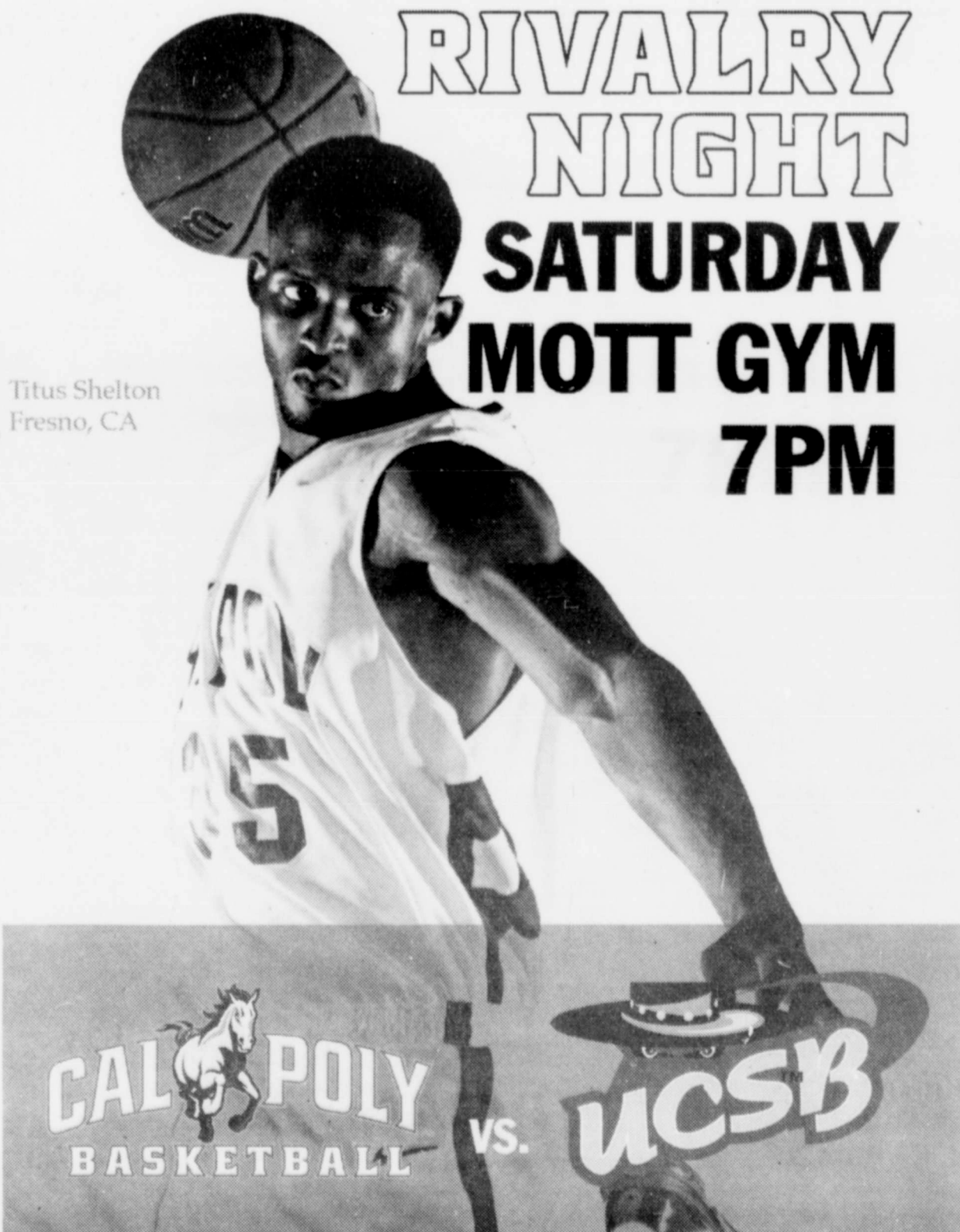
Micah Ferguson
Del Oro, CA

Titus Shelton
Fresno, CA

Come represent your housing community
on campus as the community with the most
representation and school spirit will win a
community pizza party and community

T-shirts courtesy of Mustang Athletics!

**RIVALRY
NIGHT
SATURDAY
MOTT GYM
7PM**



CAL POLY BASKETBALL vs. **UCSB**

football

Walsh introduced as Mustangs head coach

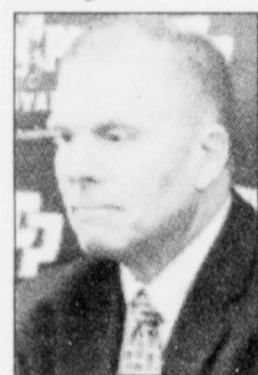
Scott Silvey
MUSTANG DAILY

The nationwide search for Rich Ellerson's replacement needed to look no further than the former Cal Poly football coach's future destination.

Flanked by athletic director Alison Cone and Cal Poly President Warren Baker, former Army offensive coordinator Tim Walsh was named Cal Poly's 16th head coach on Friday.

Selecting Walsh from a pool of 10 finalists interviewed over the last week, Cone and her hiring committee had specific qualities in mind when looking for a new head coach.

"We were looking for a knowledgeable football coach who is a leader and knows how to get a group of young men to work toward a common goal and to win football games,"



Tim Walsh

Cone explained of the committee's decision. "We were also looking for a quality individual who will help young men maximize their potential and become great men; academic students as well as great football players."

Walsh brings 18 years of head coaching experience to the Mustangs, including 14 years at Football

Championship Subdivision (formerly Division I-AA) program Portland State. He said that the challenges of coaching a Cal Poly team that finished this season with the nation's top offense but will be attempting to reload after losing many starters

Rich has created some challenges here in his uniqueness in what he does offensively and defensively.

—Tim Walsh
Cal Poly football head coach

is part of why he chose to apply for the job.

"Rich has created some challenges here in his uniqueness in what he does offensively and defensively," Walsh added. "But to me, that's part of being a football coach."

Walsh said that he would like to

keep the Mustangs unusual triple option offense intact while adding a few variations but that he was not committed to Ellerson's flex defense.

Differences in the team's new defensive philosophy also meant changes in the assistant coaching ranks.

Former defensive coordinator Payam Saadat, who was widely thought of as one of the finalists for the head coaching job, joined former offensive coordinator Ian Shields, offensive line coaches Gene McKeehan and Bill Tripp and assistant coach Andy Guyader as members of Ellerson's initial Army staff.

"It's real important that you hire a good staff that understands that recruiting in college football is extremely important," Walsh said.

January is where most college football recruiting takes place. National Letter of Intent signing day is Feb. 4.

Walsh compiled a 117-82 record in his 18 seasons as a collegiate head coach. He guided Portland State's transition from the Division II ranks to the FCS level. The experience of guiding such a transition was a key point in the hiring process, Cone said.

Speculation that Cal Poly hopes to play at the Football Bowl Subdivision (formerly Division I-A) level in the future has been prevalent since Fresno State head coach Pat Hill said that he thinks the Mustangs will be among several teams invited to join the Western Athletic Conference.



ANDREW SANTOS-JOHNSON SPECIAL TO THE MUSTANG DAILY
Former Cal Poly football head coach Rich Ellerson, left, and former defensive coordinator Payam Saadat are among the coaches headed for West Point.

The WAC plays football at the FBS level.

"We have aspirations for the football program and everything we do at the university," Baker said. "Tim has had experience in moving and developing programs. That experience was

very important to us."

Baker would not comment on a possible move to the FBS but added that the Great West Conference in which Cal Poly plays was "unstable" and that the Mustangs "do not think it is a permanent home."

men's basketball | UC IRVINE 80, CAL POLY 63

Mustangs fall to UC Irvine

Samantha MacConnell
MUSTANG DAILY

The Mustangs suffered their sixth-straight loss after falling short defensively in an 80-63 Big West Conference men's basketball game against UC Irvine Saturday night at Mott Gym.

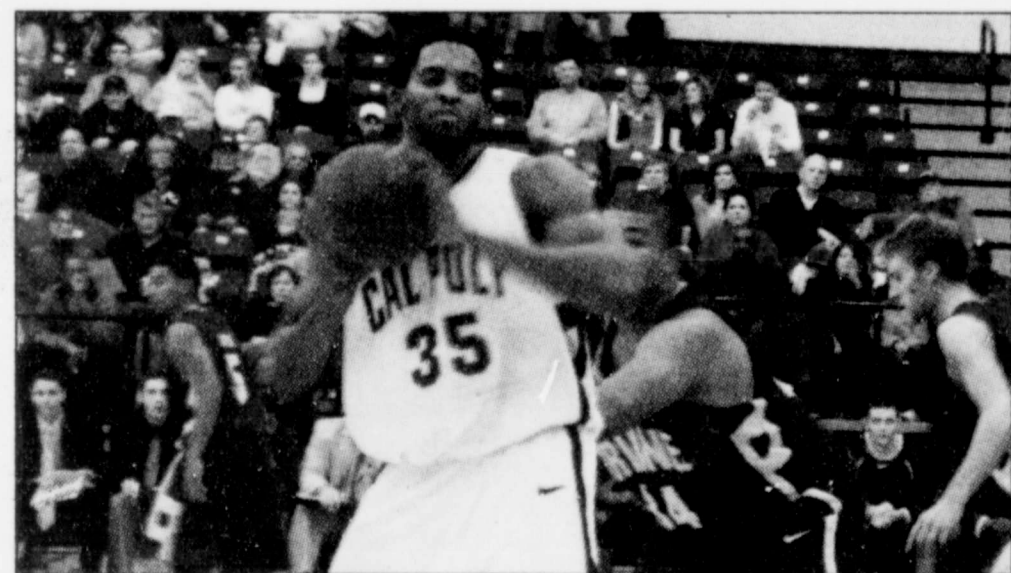
Cal Poly (3-11, 0-4 Big West Conference) led early on, but the score quickly changed in a back and forth first half that included three ties and three lead changes. The teams battled

to a 36-32 Anteater advantage at halftime.

Cal Poly junior guard Lorenzo Keeler led the Mustangs with 20 points, hitting four 3-point shots, to help the Mustangs stay in the game early in the second half.

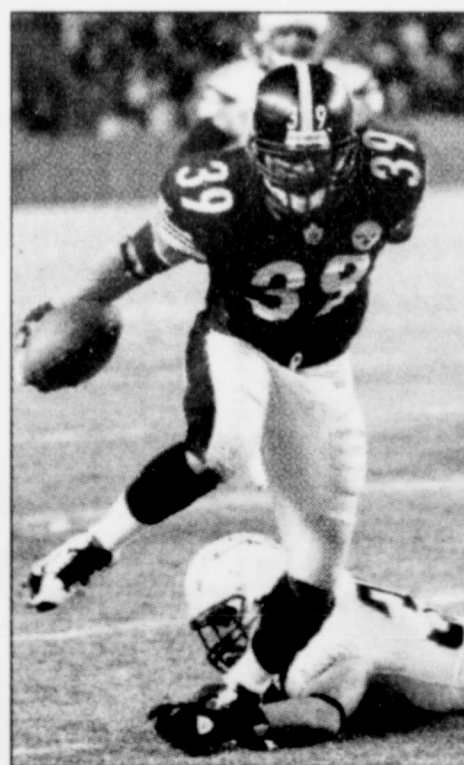
"I felt good on the court on the offensive end. I shot like I was taking practice shots, so everything was good as far as offensive-wise," said Keeler. "I think we competed down here on of-

see Basketball, page 11



PATRICK FINA MUSTANG DAILY
Cal Poly senior forward Titus Shelton backs down UC Irvine forward Eric Wise during the Anteaters 80-63 victory Saturday in Mott Gym.

Steelers unplug Chargers, win 35-24



ASSOCIATED PRESS

Pittsburgh running back Willie Parker (39) scores on a 16-yard touchdown in the Steelers 35-24 win over San Diego on Sunday.

Alan Robinson
ASSOCIATED PRESS

PITTSBURGH — Fittingly enough, the Pittsburgh Steelers brought back the home-field advantage to the NFL playoffs. Now they get to stay at home for the AFC championship game, and against the rival they dislike more than any other.

The team with the NFL's best home-field record since the 1970 NFL merger shook off a 7-0 deficit barely two minutes into the game,

shut down pint-sized playmaker Darren Sproles and returned some normalcy to the NFL postseason by beating the San Diego Chargers 35-24 in an AFC divisional game Sunday.

With a now-healthy Willie Parker running for 146 yards and two touchdowns, Ben Roethlisberger ignoring his late-season concussion to throw for a score and lead an efficient offense, the Steelers did what the favored Titans, Panthers and Giants couldn't do by winning at home. It was the first time since 1971 that three road teams won during a single playoff weekend, and the Steelers made certain that road teams didn't go 4-for-4.

The Steelers had the worst offense of any playoff team coming in, only to put up 35 points to support the NFL's top-ranked defense. Now, it's time for Ravens vs. Steelers Part III next Sunday — the third and most intriguing matchup this season between the can't-stand-each-other AFC North rivals.

"What else would you expect, us and the Ravens," Steelers coach Mike Tomlin said. "It would be big if it was a scrimmage. This is for the AFC championship."

The Steelers have never beaten the Ravens three times in a season although they've never had the chance, but they did beat Baltimore's forerunners, the old Cleveland Browns, three times during the 1994 season. Pittsburgh won the earlier two games, 23-20 in overtime in Pittsburgh —

when the Ravens supposedly put bounties on several Steelers players — and by 13-9 during the Dec. 14 rematch in Baltimore that secured the divisional title for Pittsburgh.

They were two of the NFL's most physical games this season, with injuries all around, and playing for a chance to go to the Super Bowl will only ratchet up the intensity, physicality and, no doubt, the dislike.

There was much to like for the Steelers in this one as they made certain that the Chargers' stars from their 23-17 wild-card upset of the Colts didn't repeat their performances and allow San Diego to become the first team to go .500 during the season to win twice in the postseason.

The Steelers spotted San Diego a 7-0 lead on Vincent Jackson's acrobatic 41-yard catch of Philip Rivers' pass four plays into the game, but, like San Diego's 7-0 lead in its bizarre 11-10 loss in Pittsburgh on Nov. 16, the Chargers couldn't make it stand up as 1,100-yard rusher LaDainian Tomlinson sat out with a groin injury.

Sproles, coming off his all-around 328-yard game against the Colts, wasn't a factor despite a 63-yard kickoff return and a 62-yard TD catch in the final two minutes after Pittsburgh had opened a 35-17 lead. He was held to 15 yards on 11 carries after rushing for 105 the week before.

Of course, it's tough to score when a team doesn't have the ball.

see Chargers, page 11